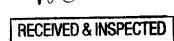
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE OF MICHIGAN

APPROPRIATIONS

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

JIM A. PLAKAS

PO. BOX 30014

LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7514

January 29,2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Commission Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street SW CY-B402 Washington, DC 20554

Re: Proceeding 03-16

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The purpose of my letter is to recommend approval of the pending application by SBC for long distance communication services in Michigan.

The telecommunications business is a competitive business and I believe with this approval, it will add even greater competition in this market for our consumers. It is the hope of many people here in Michigan that this application be approved, and that SBC be allowed to bring the same level of commitment to long distance service that they have established in their other services.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

JIM A. PLAKAS
State Representative

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76TH DISTRICT

MICHAEL G. SAK

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PHONE (517) 373-0822

E-MAIL: representativesak@house.mi.gov

January 29,2003

Federal Communications Commission Commission Secretary, Ms. Marlene H. Dortch 445 12th Street **SW** CY-B402 Washington, DC 20554

RE: Proceeding 03-16

Dear Ms. Dortch:

It's not **a** secret that Michigan consumers have many choices for local telephone service. You can't miss the television, radio, newspaper, magazine and billboard ads all over the state. The advertisements are proof that Michiganians have several choices for local service. Companies like MCI WorldCom, AT&T, TDS Metrocom. SBC Ameritech and Verizon and the state's many other local providers all offer competitive local phone packages.

Local telephone competition is great for consumers, but it's not enough. Our state needs to *have* full telecommunications competition, including the long distance market. Right now, SBC Ameritech customers do not have the convenience of one stop shopping. Consumers want choices, competitive prices and comprehensive phone packages for all of their telecommunications services. Until SBC is granted long distance approval, I don't see that happening in Michigan.

I support SBC Ameritech's efforts to gain long distance approval in Michigan. SBC's service quality has improved a great deal and I believe they are ready to enter the long distance market. I think the company's entry into the market will force other phone companies to offer competitive prices and packages that include local and long distance service. It's time to join other states in the country where consumers are enjoying the many benefits of full competition. Michigan residents deserve to enjoy lower phone bills, one stop shopping and more choices.

I remain,

With best regards,

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Michael G. Sak Michigan House of Representatives 76th District



